

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EA/ ANZ: JVMARTIN, JR.

S/ S: HGBARNES, JR.

S/ CCT: AMBASSADOR MEYER

EA: MGREEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E. O. 11562: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR AS

SUBJ: CONDOLENCE MESSAGES ON DEATHS OF AMB. NOEL AND
MR. MOORE

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO
PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM. QUOTE:

THE FAMILIES OF THE TWO AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WHO WERE
RECENTLY MURDERED IN KHARTOUM, AMBASSADOR CLEO NOEL AND
HIS DEPUTY, CURTIS MOORE, HAVE SEEN YOUR THOUGHTFUL
MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY AND HAVE ASKED ME TO THANK YOU ON
THEIR BEHALF.

NEEDLESS, WANTON ACTS OF TERRORISM LIKE THIS HAVE
DISTRESSED THE WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD, AS YOU HAVE POINTED
OUT. YOUR KIND EXPRESSION OF CONDOLENCE ADDS TO THE
UNIVERSALITY OF THE ANGERED RESPONSE OF THE FEW WHO
PERSONALLY KNEW THOSE WE MOURN AND OF THE MANY WHO HOPE
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THEIR SACRIFICE WILL LEAD TO EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM- I BELIEVE WE MUST SEE THAT THESE HOPES ARE FULFILLED. I SHOULD MOST WARMLY WELCOME YOUR HELP IN A COMMON ENDEAVOR TO ENSURE THAT THE PEOPLES OF

ALL COUNTRIES CAN WORK AND TRAVEL WITHOUT FEAR OF BODILY HARM.

2. FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM (SENT IN HIS CAPACITY AS FOREIGN MINISTER). QUOTE:

I AND MY COLLEAGUES WERE DEEPLY SHOCKED AT THE COLD-BLOODED ASSASSINATION OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES. WE FELT THAT ALLIES SHOULD CHECK WITH NEUTRALS BEFORE REACHING ANY DECISION.

2. CANADIAN REP OPPOSED US SUGGESTION AND SAID THAT OTTAWA BELIEVED CSCE COST SHARING SHOULD BE BASED ON UN- TYPE FORMULA. THIS POSITION WAS SUPPORTED BY DANISH, LUXEMBOURG, TURKISH AND PORTUGUESE REPS. NETHERLANDS AND NORWEGIAN REPS SAID THEIR AUTHORITIES WERE FLEXIBLE ON SUBJECT BUT INDICATED THEY WERE LEANING TOWARD UN- TYPE FORMULA. NETHERLANDS REP SAID THE HAGUE HAD CALCULATED THAT DUTCH SHARE WOULD BE APPROX THE SAME REGARDLESS OF WHICH SYSTEM ADOPTED.

3. FOLLOWING ABOVE DISCUSSION, CHAIRMAN NOTED LACK OF SUPPORT FOR US POSITION AND ASKED WHETHER US COULD MOVE TOWARDS POSITIONS SUPPORTED BY OTHERS, CITING THE UN FORMULA IN PARTICULAR. US REP SAID HE COULD NOT HOLD OUT HOPE OF A MOVE OF THIS KIND, POINTING OUT THAT QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLE WERE INVOLVED. HE ADDED THAT UN FORMULA WAS NO PRECEDENT FOR A UNIQUE EVENT SUCH AS CSCE. NOTING THAT US HAD MADE SIMILAR PROPOSAL IN MBFR CONTEXT, CANADIAN REP ASKED WHETHER US PROPOSAL WAS MATTER OF GENERAL POLICY OR WHETHER IT WAS BASED STRICTLY ON CSCE CONSIDERATIONS. US REP SAID HE WOULD NOT WISH TO ADDRESS SUCH A SWEEPING QUESTION BUT WOULD NATURALLY REPORT IT TO WASHDC. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE BELIEVED WASHDC WOULD WANT CAREFULLY TO CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS BEFORE CONCLUDING THAT UN COST- SHARING FORMULA SHOULD BE APPLIED IN NEW SITUATIONS.

3. COMMENT: REACTION TO US PROPOSAL WAS SURPRISINGLY STRONG, PARTICULARLY SINCE SOME WHO OPPOSED IT, SUCH AS CANADA, WOULD PROBABLY END UP PAYING MORE IF UN- TYPE FORMULA WERE ADOPTED. WE BELIEVE THAT WE COULD ATTRACT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR OUR PROPOSAL IF WE WERE ABLE TO ADOPT SOME STANDARD WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE MINI- STATES ALTOGETHER AND EXEMPT SMALL STATES FROM PAYING FULL SHARE OF EXPENSES. DEPT' S VIEWS ON THIS POINT WOULD BE APPRECIATED FOR

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APR R MEETING. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY DATA DEPT
CAN PROVIDE ON COST- SHARING FORMULAE ADOPTED IN OTHER
CONFERENCES WITH RESTRICTED ATTENDANCE. ALTHOUGH EXACT
PARALLELS ARE DIFFICULT TO DRAW, COULD 1954 AND 1962 GENEVA
CONFERENCES ON INDO- CHINA AND LAOS, RESPECTIVELY, BE CITED?
RUMSFELD

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